

with an update on the organization's progress and growth.

It is with great honor that I stand here today and recognize Wanda Samek. Her inauguration as president of the National Society of Accountants is a testament to her commitment to the association and her professional career. I am honored to congratulate a constituent from my district on attaining this well-deserved position.

RECOGNIZING JEREMY CHRISTOPHER WOOD FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremy Christopher Wood of Kansas City, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Jeremy will receive his Eagle at a Court of Honor on September 18 at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Jeremy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Jeremy has been involved with scouting he has earned numerous merit badges and has served in leadership positions within his troop.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremy Christopher Wood for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. It is an honor to represent Eagle Scout Wood in the United States Congress.

CONGRATULATING THE SRI CHINMOY MARATHON TEAM

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team for their organization and participation of the World Harmony Run 2005.

Commencing April 16, the World Harmony Run seeks to advance international camaraderie through bringing together runners from more than seventy countries and all fifty states. The goal of this event is to promote genuine goodwill and understanding of cultures through a 10,000 mile trek that will come to an end on August 14th. This event was inspired by Sri Chinmoy in 1987 through his vision of sport as a means of furthering international harmony.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the participants of the World Harmony Run 2005. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the diligent work of the many volunteers involved in World Harmony Run 2005 and the members of the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 6, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes numbered 454 and 455. Rollcall vote 454 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to, H. Res. 360, commemorating the 60th anniversary of V-J Day and the end of World War II in the Pacific. Rollcall vote 455 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to, S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution calling upon the President to issue a proclamation recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 454 and 455.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 2, 2005*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3645 to provide emergency supplemental appropriations to meet the immediate needs arising from the consequences of Hurricane Katrina. But more importantly, I rise today in support of the hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who are suffering throughout the Gulf Coast States as a result of what has been called our Nation's greatest natural disaster, Hurricane Katrina. I know I speak for all of my colleagues when I say our prayers are with each and everyone of them as they struggle through these extremely difficult and life threatening times.

The supplemental legislation we are approving today is absolutely critical to continue the infusion of federal funding into this area. News agencies have reported the cost of this disaster to be around \$500 million a day. The \$10.5 billion in federal funding we are approving today should be viewed as a down payment in terms of funding and resources to come in the following months. I am confident these resources will be used efficiently and effectively, helping those most in need and importantly, helping to support emergency protective measures as well as debris removal and rehabilitation.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency should be recognized for its response to this disaster and their organization of food, water, medical supplies, generators, shelter and other items to help those who have been displaced due to Hurricane Katrina. And the Department of Defense and National Guard should be recognized for the deployment of military personnel who are helping communities respond to this crisis.

I know personally that every State is pooling their resources and is doing all it can to help these victims in the Gulf Coast area. For example in my home State of Delaware, we have deployed National Guard troops and

planes to help at Ground Zero and in the surrounding disaster areas; Delaware State University is waiving tuition for Tulane University students to attend class; my office is working with the Food Bank of Delaware to start a Hunger Drive for those in need; local schools are collecting monetary donations to send to the victims; and, Delmarva Power is sending workers to restore electricity in the region. But I am confident we can reach even deeper and partner together to help our fellow Americans.

It is always in times of tragedy—like the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 or the Tsunami this past December in Southeast Asia—where human decency and patriotism is front and center. We need to muster the same resources and patriotism and provide the same help to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

I am hopeful the Federal Government will continue to respond in a way that is appropriate, action oriented and immediate to the Gulf Coast Region. As I have said, the funding we are approving today, is just the beginning. I expect a more comprehensive package to reach the House Floor in the coming weeks, once more precise estimates are understood.

These are very sad and trying times. May God Bless those in need and their families.

FRANCHISING APPRECIATION DAY

**HON. RICHARD H. BAKER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome over 300 franchisee, franchisor, and franchise supplier members of the International Franchise Association who are visiting Washington on September 13 as part of "Franchise Appreciation Day," the IFA's annual fly-in to the Nation's Capital.

As I am sure my colleagues are aware, the IFA is the world's oldest and largest trade association representing the franchise community with a membership roster that includes more than 1,000 franchisors, 8,000 franchisees and 400 suppliers.

Franchising is a driving force of our economy and generates \$1.53 trillion in economic output and one-of-every-seven jobs in the Nation's private-sector economy, according to a study conducted for the IFA Educational Foundation by PricewaterhouseCoopers. The "Economic Impact of Franchised Businesses" study found that there are more than 760,000 franchised small businesses in the U.S., generating more than 18 million jobs.

Those statistics are impressive enough on their own, but of particular concern and interest to me is the initiative the International Franchise Association has taken to help our veterans move from their service in the armed forces into the world of franchise ownership. Through the Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative, commonly known as "VetFran," 360 veterans have been assisted in purchasing their own franchise small business, and 120 more are in various stages of negotiation.

VetFran was established by Don Dwyer, the late founder of The Dwyer Group and an IFA leader, during Operation Desert Storm. It was re-initiated following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The program requires that participating franchisors offer veterans their "best deal" through discounts or other incentives that are determined by each company,

and more than 150 franchise companies that are members of IFA participate.

These businesses provide a great public service to our veterans and our communities, and I would like their names to be officially entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD so that their good work may be officially recognized. I also would like the RECORD to include a list of the businesses started in 45 states.

It is inspiring to me to see these companies step up, put their resources on the line and help our veterans. I think it is important to note that these are not Federal dollars—these are private-sector dollars, and I think this program is a model that should be followed and supported by others.

I would also like to add that the good work of this program has been recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, which recently recognized IFA with a Support Sector Champion Award for expanding business opportunities for veterans; the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Veterans Corporation.

Those who know me know that I am no stranger to helping veterans, and earlier this year, I introduced legislation that would ease the way for more U.S. veterans to buy a franchised business.

The "Veterans Self-Employment Act" would establish a five-year pilot program that would allow American service members, veterans, national guardsmen, reservists, and qualified others to use some of their Veterans Administration educational assistance to defray training costs associated with obtaining a franchised small business.

Acquiring a franchise is a great way for people to gain the skills they need to successfully open and operate a business, but it often requires "basic training" in business education—customer service, daily operations management, business computer systems, inventory control, costing and pricing, and meeting regulatory obligations—as well as specialized training for the goods, services, policies, and practices of the individual franchise system.

The legislation I introduced is endorsed by the International Franchise Association, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill that would help to turn more proud veterans into proud business owners.

When franchise leaders and small business men and women visit us on Franchise Appreciation Day, September 13, I have no doubt that my colleagues will join me in making them feel welcome and discuss public-policy issues that will help franchising to continue to boost the nation's economy, and help our men and women who have fought so valiantly to protect our freedoms. IFA Member Franchisors Participating in the VetFran Program include:

1-800-DryClean, 1-800-Got-Junk, 2 Scoops Café, @Wireless, @WORK Franchise, @WORK HelpingHands Services, @WORK Medical Services, @WORK Personnel Services, A-Pro Services, Action International, AeroWest Services, AIM Mail Centers, Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning, All American Specialty Restaurants, All Tune & Lube, Allegra Print & Imaging, Alta Mere Window Tinting and Auto Alarms, American Leak Detection, American Poolplayers Association, American Wholesale Thermographers, AmeriSpec Home Inspection Service, Bark Busters, Baskin-Robbins, Batteries Plus, Bevinco's, Big L's-Friendly Computers, Big O Tires, Blimpie's Subs & Salads, Brightscape Investment Centers, Camp Bow Wow, Candy Bouquet, Cardsmart Retail Corporation, Cartridge World North America, Carvel Corpora-

tion, Case Handyman Services, CGI International, Checkers Drive-In Restaurants, Children's Orchard, CHIP The Child I.D. Program of America, The Cleaning Authority, CM IT Solutions, The Coffee Beanery, College Nannies & Tutors, ComForcare Senior Services, Comfort Keepers, Computer Renaissance, ComputerTots/Computer Explorers, Concerto Networks, Cookies by Design/Cookie Bouquet, Copy Club, Cottman Transmissions Systems, Coverall Cleaning Concepts, Creative Colors International, Crestcom International, Cruise Holidays, Cruise One, D'Angelo Sandwich Shops, DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Dunkin' Donuts, Edible Arrangements, The Entrepreneur's Source, Expense Reduction Analysts, Expense Reduction Consulting, Expetec Technology Services, Express Personnel Services, ExxonMobil Corporation, Fantastic Sam's, Fastframe USA, The Filta Group, Foodnet, Foot Solutions, Furniture Medic, Geeks on Call, Glass Doctor, Gold's Gym International, Gymboree Play & Music, Handyman Matters Franchise Corp., Happy & Healthy Products, Have Signs Will Travel, i9 Sports, Inspect-It 1st Franchising Corp., Island Ink-Jet Systems, Jet Black International, Juice It Up Franchise Corp., KaBloom Franchising Corp., Kitchen Tune-Up, Kwik Kopy Business Centers, Labor Finders, Lawn Doctor, Learning Express Toys, Leather Medic, Lentz USA Service Center, Liberty Tax Service, Link Staffing Services, Maid Brigade, MaidPro, Marble Slab Creamery, Marco's Pizza, Matco Tools, Maui Wowi Smoothies, Meineke Car Care Centers, Merry Maids, L.P., Milex, Tune-Up and Brakes, Molly Maid, Money Mailer, Mr. Appliance, Mr. Electric, Mr. Handyman, Mr. Rooter Plumbing, Mr. Transmission, Multistate Transmissions, Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Netspace, Open Works, Outdoor Lighting Perspectives, Parcel Plus, The Philly Franchising Company, Planet Beach Franchising Corp., Positive Changes Hypnosis, PostalAnnex+, Postal Connections of America, PostNet, Precision Tune Auto Care, Puroclean, Rainbow Int'l Restoration and Cleaning, Ritter's Frozen Custard, Safe Kids Cards, Sarah Adult Day Services, The Screen Machine, SealMaster, Sears Carpet & Upholstery Care, ServiceMaster Clean, Siegel Capital, Snelling Personnel Services, Sparkle Wash, Sport Clips, The Sports Section, Spring-Green Lawn Care Corp., Sunbelt Business Brokers, TeamLogic IT, Togo's Eatery, Travel Lines Express, TruFoods, TurboHaul, Two Men And A Truck, The UPS Store, Vanguard Cleaning Systems, Victory Lane Quick Oil Change, Virginia Barbecue Franchise Co., Wild Bird Centers of America, WineStyles, Wing Zone, Wireless Zone, World Inspection Network, Zoup! Systems.

Franchised Businesses Established Through the VetFran Program include:

*Alabama:* Birmingham: Meineke, Decatur: Vanguard Cleaning Systems, Robertsdale: Merry Maids.

*Alaska:* Anchorage: American Poolplayers, MBE/UPS Store.

*Arizona:* Gilbert: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Lake Havasu: MBE/UPS Store, Maricopa: World Inspection Network, Mesa: Expetec, Peoria: Coffee Beanery, Phoenix: Foot Solutions, Molly Maid, World Inspection Network, Scottsdale: PostNet, Show Low: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning, Vail: KaBloom Franchising Corp.

*Arkansas:* Little Rock: Cleaning Authority, Rogers: PostNet, Siloam Springs: PostNet, Springdale: PostNet.

*California:* Anaheim: Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Angel Camp: Mr. Rooter, Antelope: MBE/UPS Store, Auburn: PostalAnnex+, Chula Vista: MBE/UPS Store, PostNet, Corte Madera: 1-800 Dry-Clean, Crona: PostNet, Encinitas: Mr. Handyman, Fair Oaks:

PostNet, Fallbrook: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Granada Hills: MBE/UPS Store, Hayward: PostNet, Hesperia: World Inspection Network, Huntington Beach: MBE/UPS Store, Imperial: Rainbow Int'l Restoration & Cleaning, La Habra: Cm IT Solutions, Laguna Hills: MBE/UPS Store, Laguna Niguel: Mr. Handyman, Lakeside: MBE/UPS Store, Los Angeles: 1-800-Got Junk, Meineke, Morgan Hills: World Inspection Network, Mountain View: Mr. Handyman, Newark: Cartridge World, Orange: Express Personnel, Pacifica: Molly Maid, Pasadena: MBE/UPS Store, San Diego: Concerto Network, PostalAnnex+, Santa Ana: MBE/UPS Store, Suisun City: MBE/UPS Store, Upland: World Inspection Network.

*Colorado:* Colorado Springs: Meineke, PostalAnnex+, Ranbor Int'l Restoration & Cleaning, Sears Carpet & Upholstery Care, Denver: Meineke Car Care Centers, Fort Collins: Expetec, Longmont: Mr. Electric, Loveland: MBE/UPS Store, Parker: PostNet, Superior: MBE/UPS Store, Rainbow Int'l Restoration & Cleaning.

*Connecticut:* Orange: MBE/UPS Store, Southbury: FastFrame USA.

*District of Columbia:* Washington: Meineke Car Care Centers, Safe Kids Card.

*Florida:* Apollo Beach: MBE/UPS Store, Charlotte: Mr. Appliance, Groveland: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Inverness: MBE/UPS Store, Jacksonville: Cleaning Authority, Mr. Appliance, Melbourne: Creative Colors, Miami: MBE/UPS Store, Naples: Coffee Beanery, Ocala: Lentz USA Service Centers, Orlando: Matco Tools, Meineke Car Care Centers, Vanguard Cleaning Systems, Pompano Beach: MBE/UPS Store, Santa Rosa Beach: MBE/UPS Store, St. Charlotte: Glass Doctor, St. Petersburg: Express Personnel, Tampa: Geeks on Call, Titusville: MBE/UPS Store.

*Georgia:* Athens: Merry Maids, Atlanta: Comfort Keepers, Geeks on Call, Gold's Gym, MBE/UPS Store, Meinke Car Care Centers, Carrollton: MBE/UPS Store, Dacula: FastFrame USA, Dallas: MBE/UPS Store, Douglasville: Mr. Appliance, Fairburn: The Sports Section, Hiram: MBE/UPS Store, Savannah: MBE/UPS Store, Woodstock: MBE/UPS Store.

*Hawaii:* Lihue: MBE/UPS Store.

*Idaho:* Boise: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Mr. Appliance.

*Illinois:* Cary: Sport Clips, Champaign/Urbana: Meineke Car Care Centers, Chicago: Expetec, Meineke Car Care Centers, Geneva: Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Homewood: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning, N. Aurora: Molly Maid, Ottawa: MBE/UPS Store, Sycamore: Vanguard Cleaning Systems.

*Indiana:* Evansville: MBE/UPS Store, Indianapolis: Outdoor Lighting Perspectives, Ritter's Frozen Custard, Merrillville: BE/UPS Store.

*Iowa:* Ankeny: MBE/UPS Store, Council Bluffs: MBE/UPS Store, Pleasant Hill: World Inspection Network.

*Kansas:* Kansas City: 1-800-Got Junk, Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Olathe: MBE/UPS Store.

*Kentucky:* Georgetown: MBE/UPS Store, Lexington: MBE/UPS Store, Louisville: Sport Clips, Richmond: Comfort Keepers.

*Louisiana:* Hammond: Mr. Appliance, Kenner: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen.

*Maryland:* Baltimore: Meineke Car Care Centers, Edgewater: MBE/UPS Store, Largo: Wireless Zone, Perry Hall: MBE/UPS Store.

*Massachusetts:* Boston: FastFrame USA, Gold's Gym, East Falmouth: MBE/UPS Store, Falmouth: Mr. Rooter, Rowley: MBE/UPS Store.

*Michigan:* Berkley: Coffee Beanery, Clinton Township: MBE/UPS Store, Mr. Handyman, Wayne: MBE/UPS Store.

*Minnesota:* Minneapolis: Two Men And A Truck, Ramsey: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen.

*Mississippi:* Gulfport: American Poolplayers, Ridgeland: FastFrame USA.

*Missouri:* Centralia: Mr. Appliance, Creve Coeur: MBE/UPS Store, Eureka: MBE/UPS Store, Fenton: World Inspection Network, Hattiesburg: Coffee Beanery, Independence: MBE/UPS Store, Maplewood: Vanguard Cleaning Systems, Raytown: MBE/UPS Store, St. Charles: MBE/UPS Store, St. Louis: Meineke Car Care Centers.

*Montana:* Billings: Meineke Car Care Centers.

*Nebraska:* Omaha: World Inspection Network.

*Nevada:* Carson City: FastFrame USA, Mr. Appliance, Henderson: World Inspection Network, Las Vegas: MBE/UPS Store, Reno: PostNet, Sparks: PostNet.

*New Hampshire:* Manchester: Express Personnel.

*New Jersey:* Barnegat: Expetec, Bergenfield: Molly Maid, Bloomfield: Merry Maids, Flemington: Mr. Electric, Highland Park: MBE/UPS Store, Maplewood: Concerto Network, Middlesex/Somerset: Meineke Car Care Centers, Oakridge: Coffee Beanery, Toms River: Cleaning Authority, Trenton: Matco Tools, Woolwich Twpk: PostalAnnex+.

*New Mexico:* Roswell: MBE/UPS Store, Santa Fe: Glass Doctor.

*New York:* Brooklyn: MBE/UPS Store, Great Neck: Molly Maid, Macedon: Happy & Healthy Products, Seldon: MBE/UPS Store, Staten Island: MBE/UPS Store, Syosset: MBE/UPS Store, Williamsville: MBE/UPS Store.

*North Carolina:* Charlotte: Geeks on Call, Fayetteville: Sears Carpet & Upholstery Care, Greensboro: Molly Maid, Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Raleigh: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, MBE/UPS Store, Meineke Car Care Centers, Rocky Mount: Mr. Appliance, Williamston: PostNet, Wilmington: Candy Bouquet.

*North Dakota:* Fargo/Moorehead: Meineke Car Care Centers.

*Ohio:* Ashland: MBE/UPS Store, Canton: Maid Brigade, Cincinnati: i9 Sports, Columbus: FastFrame USA, Dayton: AmeriSpec Home Inspection Service, Franklin: MBE/UPS Store, Strongsville: FastFrame USA, Waterford: Mr. Rooter, Westerville: PostNet.

*Oklahoma:* Tulsa MBE/UPS Store, Tuttle: Mr. Handyman.

*Oregon:* Eugene: PostNet, Woodburn: PostNet.

*Pennsylvania:* Allentown: 1-800-Got Junk, Express Personnel, Collegeville: Expetec, Hollidaysburg: Aire Serv Heating & Air Conditioning, Lansdale: Sparkle Wash, Lebanon: Safe Kids Card, Lower Burrell: Mr. Appliance, Palmyra: MBE/UPS Store, Philadelphia: Geeks on Call, i9 Sports, Pittsburgh: Concerto Network, MBE/UPS Store, Two Men and a Truck, Richboro: MBE/UPS Store, State College: Express Personnel, York: Candy Bouquet.

*Rhode Island:* Warwick: Expetec.

*South Carolina:* Beaufort: MBE/UPS Store, Charleston: Concerto Network, Greenville: Cleaning Authority, Moncks Comer: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Mount Pleasant: Safe Kids Card, Ocean Isle: Mr. Appliance, Sumter: Comfort Keepers.

*Tennessee:* Chattanooga: Sport Clips, Germantown: FastFrame USA, Jackson: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Nashville: Expetec, Vanguard Cleaning Systems, World Inspection Network.

*Texas:* Amarillo: Mr. Electric, Bailey: Safe Kids Card, Baytown: Express Personnel, Beaumont: MBE/UPS Store, Boerne: Candy Bouquet, College Station: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Mr. Electric, Cypress: MBE/UPS Store, Dallas: Meineke Car Care Centers, Garland: MBE/UPS Store, Houston: KaBloom Franchising, MBE/UPS Store, Ritter's Frozen Custard, Safe Kids Card, Vanguard

Cleaning Systems League City: MBE/UPS Store, Mansfield: Safe Kids Card, Midland: MBE/UPS Store, New Braunfels: Cartridge World, Round Rock: Mr. Electric, San Antonio: MBE/UPS Store, Texarkana: MBE/UPS Store, The Colony: Molly Maid, The Woodlands: PostNet, Victoria: Coffee Beanery, Waco: Mr. Appliance.

*Utah:* Herriman: MBE/UPS Store, Riverton: PostalAnnex+, Salt Lake City: Navis Pack & Ship Centers, Saratoga Springs: PostNet.

*Virginia:* Bristow: PostNet, Chantilly: Expetec, Charlottesville: Matco Tools, Sport Clips, Fredericksburg: 1-800-Got Junk, New Castle: Glass Doctor, Portsmouth: MBE/UPS Store, Roanoke: Precision Tune Auto Care, Rockingham: County Meineke Car Care Centers, Virginia Beach: 1-800-Got Junk, PostNet, Wireless Zone.

*Washington:* Burlington: MBE/UPS Store, Mills Creek: Comfort Keepers, North Bend: DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, Spokane: Molly Maid, Spokane Valley: MBE/UPS Store, Walla Walla: American Poolplayers Association.

*West Virginia:* Huntington: Mr. Electric.

*Wisconsin:* Green Bay: i9 Sports, Milwaukee: 1-800-Got Junk, Muskego: Expetec, Stevens Point: MBE/UPS Store, Superior: MBE/UPS Store.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO VELMA LORNE

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Velma Lorne for being a recipient of the "Unsung Hero" Award, presented by the Texas Public Employees Association. Mrs. Lorne was one of eleven people to receive the honor out of approximately three hundred nominees.

Velma Lorne has been a corrections officer in Texas for nearly three decades. During her tenure with the Denton and Gainesville State Schools, she has been the recipient of many accolades, including being named Employee of the Year in 1988.

This award represents the varied activities that Mrs. Lorne devotes herself to within Gainesville State School. She goes beyond her daily duties to help fellow employees with transportation to and from the facility as well as providing meals for State School functions. In addition, she is actively involved in annual fundraising efforts for the United Way among State School employees.

It is a great honor to stand here today and congratulate Velma Lorne for winning the "Unsung Hero" Award. This is an honor that is well deserved by Mrs. Lorne, as she has served as a hero to many Texas youth throughout her career of selfless service.

#### RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS WILLIAM WINDHORST FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicholas William Windhorst of

Kansas City, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Nicholas will receive his Eagle at a Court of Honor on September 18 at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Nicholas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Nicholas has been involved with scouting he has earned numerous merit badges and has served in leadership positions within his troop.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nicholas William Windhorst for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. It is an honor to represent Eagle Scout Windhorst in the United States Congress.

#### CONGRATULATING THE PARKVIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Parkview Volunteer Fire Department, PVFD, of O'Hara Township on their 75th anniversary of service.

Over the past 75 years the PVFD has maintained its missions of protecting the residents of O'Hara Township. Serving nearly 9,000 people and roughly 150 businesses, the PVFD has established a tremendous amount of respect among the community for their public service. Since 1930 the PVFD has developed, maintained, and strengthened a strong mutual trust and open communications between the fire department and the community in which it protects.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Parkview Volunteer Fire Department. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such principled public servants as the Parkview Volunteer Fire Department.

#### 350th ANNIVERSARY OF JEWISH LIFE IN AMERICA

#### HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, in 2003, along with our former colleague Congressman Rob Portman, I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 106, recognizing the 350th anniversary of Jewish communal life in North America. H. Con. Res. 106 was adopted by unanimous vote. An identical resolution was introduced in the other body by Senators DEWINE and VOINOVICH and was adopted as well.

Today, I would like to insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a Rabbinical Resolution issued by the Presidents of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Rabbinical Assembly, the Rabbinical Council of America,